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This morning Citizens Against Government Waste released its preliminary report of 6 of the House's appropriations bills, and already earmarks are at a higher level than that of last year. But you don't have to take my word for it, look for yourself.

Commerce, Justice, Science: CAGW has documented 1,123 projects at a cost of \$409.8 million.

Energy & Water: CAGW found 655 projects at a cost of \$821 million.

Financial Services: There are 197 projects costing \$57 million, which represents a 45 percent increase in projects and an 84 percent increase in dollar amounts from CAGW's calculation for the fiscal year 2008 House bill.

Interior: For fiscal year 2009, CAGW has enumerated 247 projects at a cost of \$134.9 million. In fiscal year 2008, CAGW found 226 projects worth \$111 million in the House bill. The 2009 totals represent a 9.3 percent increase in projects and a 21.5 percent increase in dollar amount from 2008.

Labor/HHS: For fiscal year 2009, CAGW calculated that there are 1,370 earmarks at a cost of \$618.8 million. In fiscal year 2008, CAGW found 1,305 projects costing \$277.9 million in the

House bill. The number of projects increased by 5 percent, but the dollar amount jumped by a whopping 122 percent.

Military Construction: CAGW found 102 earmarks costing \$621.3 million.